another along the length of the implant or in angular relationship to each other such that the opposed surfaces are closer to each other proximate one end of the implant than at the longitudinally opposite other. For example, at least a portion of the opposed surfaces may be in a diverging relationship to each other from the trailing end to the leading end for allowing angulation of the adjacent vertebral bodies relative to each other. Alternatively, at least a portion of the opposed surfaces may be generally in a converging relationship to each other from the trailing end to the leading end for allowing angulation of the adjacent vertebral bodies relative to each other. The spinal implant of the present invention allows for a variable surface, or any other configuration and relationship of the opposed surfaces.--

a1

Page 17, after line 6, insert the following paragraph:

--In another preferred embodiment, the opposed portions of the implant can be in moveable relationship to each other to allow for relative motion of the adjacent vertebral bodies after the implant is installed.--

a2

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 43-100 without prejudice or disclaimer of their subject matter and amend claim 1 (with changes as shown in the attachment) to read as follows:

1. (Amended) An artificial interbody spinal implant for insertion at least in part across the height of a disc space between adjacent vertebral bodies of a human spine,

a3



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the vertebral bodies having an anterior aspect and a posterior aspect, said implant comprising:

a leading end for insertion first into the disc space, a trailing end opposite said leading end, and therebetween a length along a mid-longitudinal axis of said implant, said leading end being asymmetrical;

opposed portions between said leading and trailing ends adapted to be placed within the disc space to contact and support the adjacent vertebral bodies, said opposed portions being non-arcuate along at least a portion of the length of said implant, said implant being formed at least in part of a material other than bone, said material comprising at least one of surgical quality titanium and its alloys, cobalt chrome alloy, tantalum, any metal or alloy suitable for the intended purpose, any ceramic material suitable for the intended purpose, and any plastic or composite material suitable for the intended purpose;

an interior facing side wall, an exterior facing side wall opposite said interior side wall, and a width therebetween, said width of said implant being less than approximately one-half of the maximum width of the adjacent vertebral bodies into which said implant is adapted to be inserted, said interior and exterior side walls being between said opposed portions and said leading and trailing ends, said interior side wall adapted to be oriented toward another implant when inserted within the disc space;

a first distance as measured from said leading end to a plane perpendicular to and bisecting the length along the mid-longitudinal axis of said implant that is greater than a second distance as measured from said



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